

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is requested in view of the foregoing amendments. Applicants have attempted to address each of the points raised in the Office Action by appropriate amendments to Claims 1-3, 8, 10-11 and 14. They submit that Claim 12 does not require amendment in view of the amendments to Claim 11.

In the event that any Section 112, second paragraph issues or, for that matter, Section 103(a) issue still remains, the undersigned requests the courtesy of a personal interview with the Examiner prior to any further written Office communication. Applicants believe that a personal interview would help in expediting prosecution of this case should the application claims not be deemed allowable.

The rejection of Claims 1-14 as being unpatentable over Kato et al in view of Habert under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully traversed, and reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action acknowledges that the Kato et al patent does not disclose forming a tapered surface on only one of the outer peripheral ends of each magnetic pole claw and therefore relies upon Figs. 4-8 of the Habert patent as well as col. 2, lines 28-46 thereof, to provide that feature without pointing to anything that would have suggested by so doing magnetic noise would be abated.

That motivation appears to be provided solely by the Applicants in the instant application. In other words, impermissible hindsight has been employed.

Putting aside the use of hindsight for the moment, Applicants further submit that the hypothetical Kato et al/Habert method, does not involve the application of a forming force by moving a forming punch in the radial direction of the rotor toward the intermediate blank. To the contrary, Figs. 7(a) and 7(b) of Kato et al, upon which the Office Action relies clearly, shows that the claws are shaped by moving the cope 114 in the axial direction of the rotor, thereby not achieving the superior forming accuracy with less stress and die friction as in the present invention.

Therefore, the Office Action does not set forth a *prima facie* case of obviousness based on substantial record evidence. Accordingly, early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

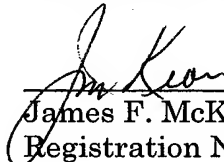
If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

Serial No. 10/824,408
Amendment Dated: December 3, 2008
Reply to Office Action
Attorney Docket No. 056207.53989US

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 056207.53989US).

Respectfully submitted,

December 3, 2008



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